

**From:** [Whitehouse, Ned](#)  
**To:** [Events, Premier](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Out of hours clearance - Meeting Brief for the Premier - Meeting with the Minister for Industry and Innovation, Hon Tim Ayres - Tasmania's Major Industrial Businesses - 8:00am – 8:45am Friday, 17 October 2025 [SEC=OFFICIAL]  
**Date:** Thursday, 16 October 2025 8:49:34 AM  
**Attachments:** [Meeting Brief for the Premier - Meeting with the Minister for Industry and Innovation, Hon Tim Ayres ~ 8 00am – 8 45am Friday, 17 October 2025.DOCX](#)  
[additional info from MO - PREMIER MEETING BRIEF REQUEST FORM - meeting with Minister Tim Ayres re major industrials 17 October 2025\(4\).DOCX](#)

---

OFFICIAL

**Libby Scott**  
**Executive Officer**

Office of the Hon Jeremy Rockliff MP  
Premier of Tasmania  
Liberal Member for Braddon

Level 11, 15 Murray Street, Hobart 7000  
Phone: (03) 6165 7650  
[www.premier.tas.gov.au](http://www.premier.tas.gov.au)

CONFIDENTIALITY NOTICE AND DISCLAIMER

The information in this transmission may be confidential and/or protected by legal professional privilege, and is intended only for the person or persons to whom it is addressed. If you are not such a person, you are warned that any disclosure, copying or dissemination of the information is unauthorised. If you have received the transmission in error, please immediately contact this office by telephone, fax or email, to inform us of the error and to enable arrangements to be made for the destruction of the transmission, or its return at our cost. No liability is accepted for any unauthorised use of the information contained in this transmission.

OFFICIAL

**From:** Mogridge, Michael  
**Sent:** Wednesday, 15 October 2025 6:21 PM  
**To:** Whitehouse, Ned ; Haigh, Mitchell  
**Cc:** Secretary ; Economic Development Admin ; Minister Ellis  
**Subject:** Out of hours clearance - Meeting Brief for the Premier - Meeting with the Minister for Industry and Innovation, Hon Tim Ayres - Tasmania's Major Industrial Businesses - 8:00am – 8:45am Friday, 17 October 2025 [SEC=OFFICIAL]  
Hi all

Please find enclosed a meeting brief for the Premier's meeting with Minister Ayres on Friday.

Kind regards

**Mike Mogridge** (he/him) | Deputy Secretary  
Economic Development | Department of State Growth  
4 Salamanca Place, Hobart, Tasmania 7000 | GPO Box 536, Hobart TAS 7001  
Phone: **s 36**  
[www.stategrowth.tas.gov.au](http://www.stategrowth.tas.gov.au)

*In recognition of the deep history and culture of this island, I acknowledge and pay my respects to all Tasmanian Aboriginal people; the past, and present custodians of the Land, Sea and Skies.*

Courage to make a difference through



Adviser:

Department: State Growth

Ministerial CM Ref: MIN25/38858

DSG CM Ref: MR25/2588

---

## **Meeting Brief for the Premier**

---

### **Meeting with the Minister for Industry and Innovation, Hon Tim Ayres - Tasmania's Major Industrial Businesses**

**8:00am – 8:45am Friday, 17 October 2025**

**Minister Ayres' electorate office – Level 3, 1A Lawson Square, Redfern NSW**

---

#### **Guidance notes for the Premier**

- You are meeting with the Minister for Industry and Innovation, Hon Tim Ayres to discuss Tasmania's Major Industrials (MIs), their escalating challenges, and the various requests for Federal assistance for the MI's which have been made at both a political and departmental level.
- The four Major Industrials are all experiencing significant financial and operational challenges (see background), with closure of one or more of these businesses likely without immediate levels of Federal Government financial assistance. The situation cannot be more critical or urgent.
- On 16 May 2025 you wrote to the Prime Minister requesting that the Commonwealth consider the following actions:
  - (i) A formal expansion of the Whyalla Working Group to include Liberty Bell Bay and other major industrial operations at risk, such as Nyrstar Hobart
  - (ii) Direct engagement between Minister Ayres and Minister Abetz, to explore the full suite of federal industry supports that may assist Tasmania's industrial base to transition and remain competitive.
  - (iii) Assurances that Bell Bay Aluminium will be eligible for the Federal Government's Green Aluminium Production Credit.
  - (iv) A detailed understanding of the Federal Government's commitment to the Boyer mill.
  - (v) Immediate recovery support in the event of any redundancies to support affected workers and local suppliers.

(vi) In the event of any major disruption to the States industrial base, consideration of regional recovery funding to drive investment and ensure the Tasmanian economy remains sustainable.

- Tasmania acknowledges the levels of engagement and collaboration from the Commonwealth at a Ministerial level, and between State Growth and the Department of Industry, Science and Resources (DISR). However, Tasmania urgently requires commitments from the Commonwealth in relation to:

- (i) s 27 [REDACTED]

- s 27 [REDACTED]

- The State Growth led Major Industrial Taskforce, will continue to review the future sustainability of Tasmania’s MIs and the Government’s broader strategic approach, to enable further Government decision making in coming weeks and months.

- It is understood that DISR have either finalised or are finalising a ‘national smelter plan’ which will outline and prioritise Australia’s total smelter assets around their commercial viability and importance towards sovereign capability. It would be beneficial if you could request through Minister Ayres a copy of this plan, to assist in the Taskforce’s understanding and decision making.

- DISR’s Industrial Transition Branch has now sought to re-engage with State Growth. The branch team will provide a mechanism and avenue for State Growth to:

- (i) Coordinate a State/Federal response
- (ii) Formally outline and provide to DISR the projected economic and social impacts of one or more MI closures, and
- (iii) Present State prepared recovery plans and associated requests for Federal support, for consideration.

*MI Engagement with DISR and requests for assistance*

1. BBA

- **Out of scope**
-

# Out of scope

## 2. LBB

- State Growth has been directly engaging and collaborating with DISR - as a working group - on LBB and the GFG since March this year.
- DISR has been considering and holding active involvement with the GFG Group for some time through the Whyalla steelworks and its subsequent administration.
- DISR has completed a 'Rapid Assessment' around Australian manganese smelting, guided by the Future Made in Australia National Interest Framework.
- This assessment covers the criticality of manganese smelting in Australia, and the pressures facing LBB as Australia's only smelter. However, this is from a perspective of the smelter assets holding importance for Australia's sovereign capability in critical mineral processing, and not analysis of the financial position of LBB.
- Although a final version of this document has not been released to Tasmania, sighted drafts highlight that the Bell Bay manganese smelter does satisfy some of the assessment criteria under the Future Made in Australia framework and particularly its contribution towards Australia's sovereign capability in steelmaking and broader strategic relationships. The assessment in particular outlines that:

(i)

§ 27  
[Redacted text block]

- *DISR has not conveyed in dollar support terms, the value of the LBB asset to Australia, although there is a clear assessment and view of this value in terms of sovereign capability.*

- § 27  
[Redacted text block]

- § 27  
[Redacted text block]

s 27

• s 27

(i) s 27

(ii) s 27

(iii) s 27

• s 27

• s 27

### 3. Nyrstar

• Out of scope

- 
- 
- 
- 

Out of scope

#### 4. Boyer Mill

- 
- 
- 
- 

Out of scope

**Background:**

**Economic contribution to Tasmania**

**Annual Economic Contribution**

	Bell Bay Aluminium			Liberty Bell Bay			Nyrstar Hobart			Boyer Mill			Totals		
	Direct	Indirect	Total Impact	Direct	Indirect	Total Impact	Direct	Indirect	Total Impact	Direct	Indirect	Total Impact	Direct	Indirect	Total Impact
Employment	Out of scope			350	525	875	Out of scope			2,029	3,844	5,873			
Salaries (\$M)	Out of scope			45	68	113	Out of scope			225	338	563			
Direct expenditure (\$M)	Out of scope			163	179	298	Out of scope			870	795	1,665			
Total Tasmanian economic contribution (\$M)	Out of scope			208	247	454	Out of scope			1,695	1,134	2,229			
% of total Tasmanian export revenue	Out of scope			8			Out of scope			50		90			

**Notes**  
 • Energy cost has been calculated by DSG based on a reliable data and included in Total Impact, and has not been fully verified by all businesses  
 • Indirect impacts capture few or benefits resulting from direct employment and supply chain expenditure



50% of Tasmania's export revenue



Community benefits – local programs, medical services, council rates



Significant Employer and supporter of supply chain businesses - regional importance



Large infrastructure users and maintainers – water, ports, rail



Direct wholesale and supply agreements with Hydro Tasmania and TasNetworks

**Known direct returns to the State (revenue for State)**

Bell Bay Aluminium

**Out of scope**

Liberty Bell Bay		2024
GBE Gross Revenue		(\$M pa)
Aurora/Hydro		s 27
TasNetworks		
TasWater		
TasPorts		
<b>Total GBE</b>		
Payroll Tax		
Stamp Duty		
Georgetown Council Rates		
<b>Total Local and State</b>		
<b>Total</b>		

Boyer Paper Mill

**Out of scope**



